

Newtown Animal Control Advisory Board Meeting

Date: Wednesday, October 8th, 2014

Location: B.J.S Animal Care & Control Center of Newtown

Attendance: Adria Henderson, Frank McCloskey, Gene Rosen, Joy Brewster, Jane Hellman, Robin Olson, Carolee Mason, Jen Cramer, Matt Schaub, & Monica Roberto

Meeting started @ 7:05pm

September 11th minutes

- All approved via email and minutes posted on Town web site.

Board Appointments

- BOS on Monday Oct. 7th approved Jennifer Cramer moving to the Alternate position and Jane Hellman moved to full board member status.

HVAC Update

- HVAC retest of the baseline specifications was done over a month ago by Environmental Testing & Balancing, Inc. but Fred Hurley is still waiting for report per his email to ACO Mason dated 10/7.
- Once received, ACB will then send baseline information to UC Davis with other information for their review & recommendations on ways to improve the ventilation.

Play Yard Priorities

- No progress on play yard open items since July 30th meeting. According to Fred Hurley's email to ACO Mason dated 10/7 the manpower is still not available.
 - o #1 outdoor runs tops done except to install hurricane clips when they come in.
 - o #2 Pavers under & between fences in all runs.
 - o #3 Replace the sod with gravel in 3 runs has not started yet. Jane dropped off ¾ inch washed natural stone sample @ Fred Hurley's office.
 - o #4 Lamp post exposed wires will disappear once security cameras are installed and crack in base will be sealed.

Trap, Neuter, & Release (TNR) program

- Monica Roberto, from The Animal Center and The Hubbard Sanctuary joined us to discuss her experience with the Animal Center's TNR program in town. They've been doing TNR in town for ~10 years and adopted out ~1,000 kitten to date. Currently, the Animal Shelter is only focused on Newtown with a 100% volunteer staff, so they aren't as active feeding & trapping as in the past. The Hubbard Sanctuary will not be doing TNR.
- Animal Center has documented sites and key contacts, (usually the owner of the land or person who called) but can't disclose them due to confidentiality. Monica said she can do that going forward with the contact's consent but said ACO Mason knows most of them too due to joint efforts in the past. ACO Mason will put together a list of the ~5 existing ones per the Cat Ordinance. Monica said there were not a lot of large colonies currently in Newtown and the largest one of ~20-30 is near Currituck and Papoose.

Trap, Neuter, & Release (TNR) program (continued)

- Monica brought a copy of "The Neighborhood Cat TNR Program" book she said was a great resource and to keep at the Shelter.
- Discussed possible joint efforts between the Shelter and the Animal Center. She said the following would be helpful with the Animal Center efforts...
 - o A holding structure before & after trapping. An outdoor building would be preferred since it's best to be a quiet, dark space that can hold a row of 36 inch traps. Inside the shelter would be too noisy.
 - o Ability to use the training room to train other volunteers
 - o Space for a trap bank so volunteers to pick up & drop off traps.
- A TNR ACB subcommittee was created & will meet on Tuesday Oct. 21th at the Shelter. Subcommittee will include Adria, Robin, Gene, Jen, Carolee, & Matt.

Parking @ Shelter

- No progress or update from Fred Hurley about putting up the gate between the shelter and the dog park as discussed with ACO Mason.

Sunny Update

- Jane Grauer, Sunny's trainer to date, evaluated her on Sept. 16th & submitted her report.
- Joy will locate an independent evaluator for Sunny as soon as possible so progress can continue towards getting her adopted.

Training for other dogs @ Shelter

- ACO Mason noted Juno completed a 4 week training course @ Cassio Training Center and plans to take Juno to another 4 week training course starting Nov. 11th. Matt plans to take Dolly too.

Adoptions

- Sophia and Star (Cats) & Spy (dog) adopted since last meeting & Animal Center has taken kittens since last meeting.

Telephone system

- Discussed "If emergency, call 911", and has to stay per ACO Mason's discussion with Pat Llodra but will add landline police department number to message.

Shelter budget

- ACO Mason said several line items (ie supplies) have been removed but she'll be asking for those items to be included.

Security Cameras

- ACO Mason was told by Fred Hurley the expenses were being covered via a company grant but now the money is coming out of supposedly ~\$45k left from the Bequest's construction budget. Are the cameras in question interior or exterior cameras?

New Business

Fundraiser

- A local business asked about doing a possible fundraiser for the Shelter. Tabled for now until we understand TNR needs.

BOS ACB annual report out

- ACB has been asked to give the annual report to the BOS at the 11/3 meeting. Another meeting will be setup to prep for the meeting.

Next Meeting – Wed. Nov. 12th 7PM at the Shelter

Meeting adjourned at 8:40pm

Submitted by Frank McCloskey